



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



December 1998

| Location | Date | Time Local/ Standard | Path Length (Miles) | Path Width (Yards) | Number of Persons Killed | Number of Persons Injured | Estimated Damage Property | Estimated Damage Crops | Character of Storm |
|----------|------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
|----------|------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|

WISCONSIN, Southeast

WIZ046>047-051>052-
056>060-062>072

Marquette - Green Lake - Fond Du Lac - Sheboygan - Sauk - Columbia - Dodge - Washington - Ozaukee - Iowa - Dane -
Jefferson - Waukesha - Milwaukee - Lafayette - Green - Rock - Walworth - Racine - Kenosha

01 0000CST
06 1000CST

0 0

Excessive Heat

A historical heat wave, which started in late November, 1998, continued into the early morning hours of December 6th over southcentral and southeast Wisconsin. Numerous new daily record maximum temperatures were set, as well as some new daily record high minimums. The length of the heat wave was an unbelievable 15 days, and involved daytime temperatures in the 50s and 60s, and overnight lows in the mid 30s to lower 50s. Normal highs are in the mid 30s and normal lows in the upper teens to mid 20s. The high of 64 in Milwaukee (Milwaukee Co.) on December 3rd became the warmest maximum reading ever recorded for the entire month of December. The high of 62 in Madison (Dane Co.) on December 5th tied the warmest maximum reading for the entire month of December. A high of 65 in Sheboygan (Sheboygan Co.) on December 3rd became the warmest maximum reading ever recorded for the entire month of December.

The record warmth allowed some plants to become active again. Some farmers noted that winter wheat started to sprout. There were numerous reports of dandelion weeds blooming, lilac bushes budding, and tulip flowers popping their stems up.

Here's a breakdown on the records:

December 3...Milwaukee...new daily record maximum of 64, and new record maximum for December.

Madison...new daily record maximum of 61, and lows of 43 tied daily record high minimum.

Racine...new daily record maximum of 65.

Sheboygan...new daily record maximum of 65, and new record maximum for December.

Kenosha...new daily record maximum of 64.

December 4...Milwaukee...new daily record high minimum of 46.

Madison...new daily record high minimum of 47.

December 5...Milwaukee...new daily record maximum of 61, and new daily record high minimum of 45.

Madison...new daily record maximum of 62, and new daily record high minimum of 52 which was the warmest so late in the season.

December 6...Milwaukee...new daily record maximum of 56.

Madison...new daily record maximum of 56.